

House File 156 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 156

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A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to state funding for intensive instructional
2 services and supports and to the retention in grade three of
3 students who are deficient in reading and who fail to enroll
4 in an intensive summer reading program.
5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 279.68, subsection 1, paragraph c, Code
2 2013, is amended to read as follows:

3 c. Beginning May 1, 2017, unless the school district is
4 granted a waiver pursuant to subsection 2, paragraph "e",
5 if the student's reading deficiency is not remedied by the
6 end of grade three, as demonstrated by scoring on a locally
7 determined or statewide assessment as provided in section
8 256.7, subsection 31, the school district shall notify the
9 student's parent or guardian that the parent or guardian may
10 enroll the student in an intensive summer reading program
11 offered in accordance with subsection 2, paragraph "e". If the
12 general assembly appropriates funds as provided in subsection
13 2, and the parent or guardian does not enroll the student
14 in the intensive summer reading program and the student is
15 ineligible for the good cause exemption under subsection 5, the
16 student shall be retained in grade three pursuant to subsection
17 3. If the student is exempt from participating in an intensive
18 summer reading program for good cause, pursuant to subsection
19 5, or completes the intensive summer reading program but is
20 not reading proficient upon completion of the program, the
21 student may be promoted to grade four, but the school district
22 shall continue to provide the student with intensive reading
23 instruction until the student is proficient in reading as
24 demonstrated by scoring on locally determined or statewide
25 assessments.

26 Sec. 2. Section 279.68, subsection 2, unnumbered paragraph
27 1, Code 2013, is amended to read as follows:

28 If funds are specifically appropriated by the general
29 assembly for purposes of implementing all of this subsection, a
30 school district shall do all of the following:

31 EXPLANATION

32 This bill specifically makes conditional a requirement that
33 school districts retain in grade three a student whose reading
34 deficiency is not remedied by the end of grade three and whose
35 parent or guardian does not enroll the student in the school

1 district's intensive summer reading program. The retention
2 requirement is conditioned on the specific appropriation of
3 funds by the general assembly to implement a current Code
4 provision that requires school districts to provide a full
5 range of intensive instructional services and supports to
6 remedy reading deficiencies of students in kindergarten through
7 grade three.